

## Message Text

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NATO FOR HARTMAN - HOLD FOR OPENING OF BUSINESS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CSCE

SUBJECT: NY TIMES ARTICLE ON CSCE

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF NY TIMES ARTICLE ON FIRST  
PRESIDENTIAL REPORT TO CSCE COMMISSION ON CSCE IMPLE-  
MENTATION, AND COMMENTS OF COMMISSION CHAIRMAN FASCELL  
IN RELEASING REPORT.

BEGIN TEXT.

PRESIDENT FORD REPORTED TODAY THAT THERE HAD BEEN IM-  
PROVEMENT IN EAST-WEST COOPERATION IN SCIENCE AND TECH-  
NOLOGY SINCE THE SIGNING OF THE 35-NATION ACCORD AT THE  
END OF THE 1975 EUROPEAN SECURITY CONFERENCE. BUT HE  
SAID EFFORTS TO EASE HUMAN CONTACTS HAD BEEN UNEVEN.

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THE PRESIDENTIAL REPORT ON HOW THE ACCORDS APPROVED AT

THE CONFERENCE IN HELSINKI, FINLAND, HAD WORKED SAID THE ADMINISTRATION HAD FOUND "LIMITED PROGRESS" IN COMPLIANCE BY EAST EUROPEANS. IT SAID THE UNITED STATES HAD MADE A SERIES OF REPRESENTATIONS TO THE SOVIET UNION AND OTHER EAST EUROPEAN COUNTRIES URGING THEM "TO FULFILL THEIR HELSINKI UNDERTAKINGS."

THE REPORT, CONSISTING OF 187 PAGES, WAS PROMPTED BY THE ESTABLISHMENT IN SEPTEMBER OF A CONGRESSIONAL COMMISSION TO MONITOR THE HELSINKI ACCORDS.

THE COMMISSION AND THE PRESIDENTIAL REPORT PAID PARTICULAR ATTENTION TO THE HELSINKI STIPULATIONS ON COOPERATION IN HUMANITARIAN AREAS, WHICH FORMED THE THIRD SECTION OF THE ACCORD.

THE FORD REPORT NOTED, FOR EXAMPLE, THAT BOTH THE SOVIET UNION AND HUNGARY HAD REDUCED FEES FOR EXIT VISAS SOUGHT BY CITIZENS WISHING TO JOIN MEMBERS OF THEIR FAMILIES IN THE WEST. IT ALSO NOTED AN UPWARD TREND IN THE NUMBER OF SOVIET CITIZENS RECEIVING EMIGRATION VISAS TO JOIN FAMILIES IN THIS COUNTRY--PRINCIPALLY SOVIET ARMENIANS. THE REPORT SAID THAT THE SOVIET UNION, IN THE FIRST SIX MONTHS OF 1976, ALLOWED 1,303 OF ITS CITIZENS TO EMIGRATE TO THE UNITED STATES TO JOIN FAMILIES, COMPARED WITH 1,162 FOR ALL OF 1975.

HOWEVER, IT STATED THAT RESTRICTIONS ON TRAVEL AND TOURISM REMAINED IN FORCE IN MOST EAST EUROPEAN COUNTRIES. IT ALSO NOTED THAT SOVIET-BLOC COUNTRIES HAD BARRED MEMBERS OF THE CONGRESSIONAL COMMISSION FROM CARRYING OUT A STUDY MISSION IN EAST EUROPE LAST MONTH AND THAT, AS A RESULT, THE COMMISSION MEMBERS HAD TOURED ONLY WEST EUROPEAN COUNTRIES AND YUGOSLAVIA.

ALSO TODAY, A NEW YORK TRAVEL AGENT SPECIALIZING IN TOURS TO THE SOVIET UNION COMPLAINED THAT INTOURIST, THE SOVIET TOURISM AGENCY, HAD BARRED THREE AMERICAN JEWS FROM CHARTER TRIPS IN RECENT DAYS.

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THE AGENT, STEPHEN DANIEL JAMES, SAID HE HAD BEEN UNABLE TO FIND ANYONE IN THE ADMINISTRATION WILLING TO RAISE THE CASES OF THE THREE AMERICAN TRAVELERS WITH THE SOVIET UNION "IN THE HELSINKI CONTEXT."

REPRESENTATIVE DANTE B. FASCELL, THE FLORIDA DEMOCRAT WHO IS CHAIRMAN OF THE CONGRESSIONAL COMMISSION ON THE HELSINKI ACCORDS, SAID AT A NEWS CONFERENCE THAT

MR. JAMES'S COMPLAINT WAS PRECISELY THE SORT OF CASE  
THE ADMINISTRATION SHOULD BE PREPARED TO HANDLE.

MR. FASCELL ALSO CHARGED THAT "THE UNITED STATES HAS MADE  
ABSOLUTELY NO PREPARATIONS" FOR PARTICIPATION IN A CON-  
FERENCE SCHEDULED TO BE HELD IN BELGRADE, YUGOSLAVIA,  
NEXT SUMMER AS A FOLLOW-UP TO THE HELSINKI MEETING.

PRESIDENT FORD, IN AN INTRODUCTORY NOTE ATTACHED TO HIS  
REPORT, SAID HE VIEWED THE HELSINKI ACCORDS AS "A KEY  
YARDSTICK" FOR MEASURING THE DEVELOPMENT OF EAST-WEST  
RELATIONS.

IN OTHER SECTIONS, THE FORD REPORT SAID THAT THE  
ACCORDS HAD PRODUCED "MORE MEANINGFUL COOPERATION" WITH  
THE SOVIET UNION, PARTICULARLY IN TECHNOLOGICAL AREAS.  
IT ALSO SAID THAT THE EAST EUROPEAN COUNTRIES HAD BEEN  
MORE FORTHCOMING IN PROVIDING ECONOMIC DATA AND FACILITIES  
FOR WESTERN BUSINESSMEN AND IN TAKING CONFIDENCE-  
BUILDING MEASURES SUCH AS GIVING PRIOR NOTIFICATION OF  
TROOP MANEUVERS.

BUT IT WAS CRITICAL OF THE SOVIET-BLOC COUNTRIES FOR  
ATTACKING THE BROADCASTS OF THE AMERICAN-SPONSORED  
RADIO FREE EUROPE AND RADIO LIBERTY, FOR CAUSING DEATHS  
OF CITIZENS SEEKING TO FLEE ACROSS BORDERS TO THE WEST  
AND FOR IMPOSING RESTRICTIONS ON MOVEMENTS OF WESTERN  
NEWSMEN.  
END TEXT.

2. FOLLOWING IS PRESS GUIDANCE ON ARTICLE PREPARED FOR  
DECEMBER 9 DEPARTMENT BRIEFING. SUBJECT DID NOT COME UP  
AT BRIEFING.  
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BEGIN TEXT.

- -

Q. CSCE COMMISSION CHAIRMAN FASCELL CHARGED YESTERDAY  
THAT THE ADMINISTRATION IS NOT MAKING PREPARATIONS FOR  
THE 1977 CSCE BELGRADE FOLLOW-UP MEETINGS. IS THIS TRUE?

A. THE U.S. IS DEEPLY INVOLVED IN PREPARATIONS FOR  
BELGRADE. IN KEEPING WITH LONGSTANDING PRACTICE, THE  
U.S. IS COORDINATING POLICY ON CSCE WITH OUR ALLIES AT  
NATO. IN ADDITION TO POOLING INFORMATION ON IMPLE-  
MENTATION OF THE CSCE FINAL ACT AT NATO, WE HAVE TAKEN  
AN ACTIVE ROLE IN DEVELOPING POLICY AND A CONSENSUS ON

THE BELGRADE FOLLOW-UP MEETINGS WITH THE ALLIES. WE  
HAVE ALSO BEEN CONSULTING WITH THE NEUTRAL CSCE STATES

ON THE FOLLOW-UP MEETINGS. AS INDICATED IN THE PRESIDENT'S LETTER TO CHAIRMAN FASCELL, WE HAVE STRESSED THAT OUR PRIMARY INTEREST AT BELGRADE WILL BE ON THE REVIEW OF IMPLEMENTATION.

Q. HOW ABOUT THE REPORT IN THE ARTICLE THAT THE SOVIETS REFUSED VISAS TO SOME JEWISH MEMBERS OF A GROUP TOUR ORGANIZED BY STEPHEN DANIEL JAMES, AND MR. JAMES "HAD BEEN UNABLE TO FIND ANYONE IN THE ADMINISTRATION WILLING TO RAISE THE CASES OF THE THREE AMERICAN TRAVELERS...IN THE HELSINKI CONTEXT?"

A. OUR OFFICE OF SOVIET UNION AFFAIRS RAISED THEIR CASES WITH THE SOVIET EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON NUMEROUS TIMES IN THE CSCE CONTEXT. WE MAKE REPRESENTATIONS IN SUCH CASES REPEATEDLY.

END TEXT.

ROBINSON

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